



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Substitute Bill No. 5254

* _____ HB05254KIDHS_030906 _____ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING STATE INVESTMENT IN PREVENTION AND
CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 4-67v of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 For the biennial budget for the fiscal years commencing July 1,
4 [2003, and ending June 30, 2005] 2007, and July 1, 2008, and each
5 biennium thereafter, the Governor's budget document shall include a
6 prevention report [presenting] that corresponds with the prevention
7 goals identified in section 4-67x, as amended by this act. The budget
8 document shall:

9 (1) Present in detail for each fiscal year of [such] the biennium the
10 Governor's recommendation for appropriations for prevention services
11 classified by those budgeted agencies [involved in the State Prevention
12 Council and showing,] that provide prevention services to children,
13 youth and families;

14 (2) Indicate the Governor's progress toward meeting the goal that,
15 by the year 2020, at least ten per cent of total recommended
16 appropriations for each such budgeted agency be allocated for
17 prevention services; and

18 (3) Include, for each applicable budgeted agency and its
19 subdivisions, (A) a list of agency programs that provide prevention
20 services, (B) the actual prevention services expenditures for the fiscal
21 year [ending June 30, 2003] preceding the biennium, by program, (C)
22 the estimated prevention services expenditures for the fiscal year
23 [commencing July 1, 2003, and] preceding the biennium, (D) an
24 identification of research-based prevention services programs, [The
25 Governor's budget shall also include] and (E) a summary of all
26 prevention services by each applicable budgeted agency [,] identifying
27 the total for prevention services included in the budget.

28 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) For the biennial budget for
29 the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2008, four per cent
30 of the recommended appropriations in the Governor's budget for each
31 budgeted agency that provides prevention services to children, youth
32 or families shall be dedicated to such prevention services. For the
33 biennial budget for the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2009, and July
34 1, 2010, and each biennium thereafter until June 30, 2019, said four per
35 cent shall be increased by at least one per cent each biennium until the
36 amount of ten per cent is attained. For the biennial budget for the fiscal
37 years commencing July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020, and each biennium
38 thereafter, the amount for prevention services shall be not less than ten
39 per cent of the recommended appropriation for each such budgeted
40 agency.

41 Sec. 3. Section 4-67s of the general statutes is repealed and the
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

43 As used in sections 4-67s to [4-67v] 4-67x, inclusive, as amended by
44 this act:

45 (1) "Prevention" means policies and programs that promote healthy,
46 safe and productive lives and reduce the likelihood of crime, violence,
47 substance abuse, illness, academic failure and other socially
48 destructive behaviors.

49 (2) "Research-based prevention" means those prevention programs

50 as defined in this section that have been rigorously evaluated and are
51 found to be effective or represent best practices.

52 Sec. 4. Section 4-67x of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
54 *October 1, 2006*):

55 (a) (1) There shall be a Child Poverty and Prevention Council
56 consisting of the following members or their designees: The Secretary
57 of the Office of Policy and Management, the president pro tempore of
58 the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority
59 leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of
60 Representatives, the Commissioners of Children and Families, Social
61 Services, Correction, Mental Retardation, Mental Health and Addiction
62 Services, Transportation, Public Health, Education, Economic and
63 Community Development and Health Care Access, the Labor
64 Commissioner, the Chief Court Administrator, the Chairman of the
65 Board of Governors for Higher Education, the Child Advocate, [the
66 chairperson of the State Prevention Council,] the chairperson of the
67 Children's Trust Fund and the executive directors of the Commission
68 on Children and the Commission on Human Rights and
69 Opportunities. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
70 or the secretary's designee, shall be the chairperson of the council.

71 (2) The council shall:

72 (A) [develop] Develop a ten-year plan, to begin June 8, 2004, to
73 reduce the number of children living in poverty in the state by fifty per
74 cent;

75 (B) Promote the health, education, safety and economic security of
76 children from birth to twenty-one years of age, and provide related
77 prenatal services, in order to implement the ten-year plan; and

78 (C) Advise the Governor and the General Assembly on realignment
79 of the state budget and other resources in order to implement the ten-
80 year plan.

81 (b) The ten-year plan shall contain: (1) An identification and
82 analysis of the occurrence of child poverty in the state, (2) an analysis
83 of the long-term effects of child poverty on children, their families and
84 their communities, (3) an analysis of costs of child poverty to
85 municipalities and the state, (4) an inventory of state-wide public and
86 private programs that address child poverty, (5) the percentage of the
87 target population served by such programs and the current state
88 funding levels, if any, for such programs, (6) an identification and
89 analysis of any deficiencies or inefficiencies of such programs, and (7)
90 procedures and priorities for implementing strategies to achieve a fifty
91 per cent reduction in child poverty in the state by June 30, 2014. Such
92 procedures and priorities shall include, but not be limited to, (A)
93 vocational training and placement to promote career progression for
94 parents of children living in poverty, (B) educational opportunities,
95 including higher education opportunities, and advancement for such
96 parents and children, including, but not limited to, preliteracy, literacy
97 and family literacy programs, (C) housing for such parents and
98 children, (D) day care and after-school programs and mentoring
99 programs for such children and for single parents, (E) health care
100 access for such parents and children, including access to mental health
101 services and family planning, (F) treatment programs and services,
102 including substance abuse programs and services, for such parents and
103 children, and (G) accessible childhood nutrition programs.

104 (c) In developing the plan, the council shall consult with experts and
105 providers of services to children living in poverty and parents of such
106 children. The council shall hold at least one public hearing on the plan.
107 After the public hearing, the council may make any modifications that
108 the members deem necessary based on testimony given at the public
109 hearing.

110 (d) Funds from private and public sources may be accepted and
111 utilized by the council to develop and implement the plan and the
112 provisions of this section.

113 (e) Not later than January 1, 2005, the council shall submit the plan,

114 in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of
115 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
116 appropriations and human services and to the select committee of the
117 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,
118 along with any recommendations for legislation and funding
119 necessary to implement the plan.

120 (f) On or before January 1, 2006, and annually thereafter, until
121 January 1, 2015, the council shall report, in accordance with section 11-
122 4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
123 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and human services
124 and to the select committee of the General Assembly having
125 cognizance of matters relating to children on the implementation of the
126 plan, progress made toward meeting the child poverty reduction goal
127 specified in subsection (a) of this section and the extent to which state
128 actions are in conformity with the plan. The council shall meet at least
129 two times annually to (1) review and coordinate state agency efforts to
130 meet the child poverty reduction goal specified in subsection (a) of this
131 section, and (2) report on prevention investment pursuant to
132 subsection (i) of this section.

133 (g) Not later than July 1, 2006, the Office of Policy and Management
134 shall, within available appropriations, develop a protocol requiring
135 state contracts for programs aimed at reducing poverty for children
136 and families to include performance-based standards and outcome
137 measures related to the child poverty reduction goal specified in
138 subsection (a) of this section. Not later than July 1, 2007, the Office of
139 Policy and Management shall, within available appropriations, require
140 such state contracts to include such performance-based standards and
141 outcomes. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may
142 consult with the Commission on Children to identify academic, private
143 and other available funding sources and may accept and utilize funds
144 from private and public sources to implement the provisions of this
145 section.

146 (h) For purposes of this section, the Secretary of the Office of Policy

147 and Management, or the secretary's designee, shall be responsible for
148 coordinating all necessary activities, including, but not limited to,
149 scheduling and presiding over meetings and public hearings.

150 (i) (1) On or before January 1, 2007, and annually thereafter until
151 January 1, 2015, the council shall report, in accordance with section 11-
152 4a, to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General
153 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations,
154 education, human services and public health and to the select
155 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
156 relating to children, on the state's progress toward realigning state
157 agency budgets to incorporate prevention services that contribute to
158 prevention or reduction of child poverty as a budget and
159 programmatic priority in budgeted state agencies with membership on
160 the council. The report shall include (A) a summary of measurable
161 gains made toward the child poverty and prevention goals specified in
162 this section; (B) each such agency's report on prevention services
163 submitted to the council pursuant to this subsection; (C) examples of
164 successful interagency collaborations to meet the child poverty and
165 prevention goals in this section; and (D) recommendations for
166 prevention investment and budget realignment developed by the
167 council pursuant to this subsection.

168 (2) On or before November 1, 2006, and annually thereafter until
169 November 1, 2014, each such budgeted state agency that provides
170 prevention services to children shall report to the council on such
171 prevention services. For each prevention service, the report shall
172 include (A) the number of children and families served, (B) a
173 description of the preventive purposes of the service, (C) data showing
174 success or failure of the program in preventing child poverty or related
175 risk factors, as measured by performance-based standards and
176 outcomes, (D) performance-based standards and outcomes included in
177 relevant contracts pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, and (E)
178 any performance-based vendor accountability protocols. Each agency
179 report shall also include (i) long-term departmental goals, strategies
180 and outcomes to promote the health and well-being of children and

181 families, (ii) overall findings on the effectiveness of prevention within
182 such agency using performance-based standards or outcomes, (iii)
183 methods within such agency to reduce disparities in child performance
184 and outcomes by race, income level and gender, and (iv) other
185 information that the agency head deems relevant to demonstrate the
186 preventive value of such services. Each agency shall report on at least
187 two prevention services for the report due on or before November 1,
188 2006, and the number of services shall increase by one for each
189 subsequent report up to and including the report due on or before
190 November 1, 2010.

191 (3) For purposes of each agency's report on prevention services,
192 long-term agency goals in prevention may include, but shall not be
193 limited to, (A) with respect to health goals: Increasing (i) the number of
194 healthy pregnant women and newborns, (ii) the number of youths
195 who adopt healthy behaviors and successfully obtain and maintain
196 employment as adults, and (iii) access to health care, (B) with respect
197 to education goals: Increasing the number of children who (i) are ready
198 for school at an appropriate age, (ii) learn to read by third grade, (iii)
199 succeed in school, and (iv) graduate from high school, (C) with respect
200 to safety goals: Decreasing (i) the rate of child neglect and abuse, (ii)
201 the number of children who are unsupervised after school, (iii) the
202 incidence of child and youth suicide, and (iv) the incidence of juvenile
203 crime, and (D) with respect to housing goals: Increasing access to
204 stable housing.

205 (4) Each report submitted pursuant to this subsection shall include
206 information on the impact of the prevention services in preventing and
207 reducing the incidence of short-term and long-term child poverty.

208 (5) In developing the recommendations pursuant to this subsection,
209 the council shall consult with experts and providers of services to
210 children and families. The council shall annually hold at least one
211 public hearing on the recommendations. After each public hearing, the
212 council may make modifications that the members deem necessary
213 based on testimony given at the public hearing.

214 [(i)] (j) The council shall terminate on June 30, 2015.

215 Sec. 5. Section 17b-16 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes
 216 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
 217 *October 1, 2006*):

218 The Labor Department, in cooperation with the Department of
 219 Social Services, shall provide information and assistance in obtaining,
 220 within available appropriations, the federal earned income credit
 221 established pursuant to 26 USC 32, to each applicant for or recipient of
 222 assistance from the department. The Labor Department, in cooperation
 223 with the Department of Revenue Services, shall promote the earned
 224 income credit program to recipients of benefits pursuant to section
 225 17b-112. The Department of Social Services, in consultation with the
 226 Child Poverty and Prevention Council established in section 4-67x, as
 227 amended by this act, shall, within available appropriations, promote
 228 greater utilization of the federal earned income credit to
 229 municipalities, public and private employers, community-based
 230 organizations and other entities that have frequent contact with low-
 231 income families and shall enhance financial literacy and self-
 232 sufficiency programs. School and business partnership funds, private
 233 funds and other available funds may be used for purposes of this
 234 section.

235 Sec. 6. Sections 4-67t, 4-67u and 4-67w of the general statutes are
 236 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2006*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	4-67v
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	4-67s
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	4-67x
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	17b-16
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	Repealer section

KID

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

HS